

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1819
ANSWERED ON:04.08.2005
ADULTERATION IN PETROL AND DIESEL
Jha Shri Raghunath

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) Whether Central Pollution Control Board has admitted in its latest report that adulterated petrol and diesel is easily available in Delhi which polluting Delhi's environment,
- (b) whether the Government has fixed any quality norms for petrol and diesel;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; `
- (d) whether there is any proposal to formulate such quality norms;
- (e) if so, the details thereof;
- (f) the number of samples of petrol and diesel lifted in Delhi during each of the last three years and how many out of them found to be adulterated along with the action taken against each of the adulterators; and
- (g) the measures taken to ensure availability; of pure petrol and diesel in Delhi?

Answer

MINISTER OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS & PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AYAR)

(a) The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) has brought out a document on all transfer fuel adulteration which deals with various issues relating to fuel adulteration. Compiled information indicate that adulteration of transfer fuel at point of sale and transportation is one of the source. There are several petroleum products which are close substitutes of petrol and diesel and are available at lower prices. Such products are mixed with petrol and diesel.

(b) to (e) : The Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) prescribes specifications for Petrol and Diesel. The quality of Petrol and Diesel is required to conform to BIS specification No IS-2796 and IS-1460 respectively. All oil companies marketing petrol & diesel have to conform to these specifications.

(f) ` The figures in respect of cases of Delhi are as below: -

Year	No of Samples drawn	No of cases of adulte-ration	No of cases in which actions were taken
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02-03	3396		
03-04	4792	4	4
04-05	5120	5	5
Total	13308	14	14

(g) ` Measures taken by the Government/Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) to contain the menace of adulteration for ensuring the availability of pure petrol and diesel, include the following:

(i) Under the Control Orders issued by the Government to prevent fuel adulteration, under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955, State Governments are empowered to take action against those indulging in adulteration. Government have taken up this matter with all the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations to step up inspections/surprise checks to ensure that adulteration-related activities are minimized and to exercise vigil/conduct inspections at various private firms, factories, processing units, etc., under their jurisdictions so as to identify the perpetrators of adulteration and take stringent action against them within the available legal framework.

(ii) OMCs undertake regular and surprise inspections of Retail Outlets and also take action under Marketing Discipline Guidelines (MDG) and Dealership Agreements against those indulging in adulteration and malpractices. MDG provide for penalty & termination of dealership in cases of adulteration being established.

(iii) As advised by the Government, Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) have created a separate wing to report to a Director other than Director (Marketing), which will oversee and monitor all activities and operations to curb adulteration and specify norms and guidelines in this regard.

(iv) Keeping in view the misuse/diversion of kerosene (SKO) for adulteration, the import of SKO by private parties has been canalized through OMCs..

(v) OMCs have introduced new tamper proof tank-truck locking systems to prevent en route adulteration by transporters.

(vi) Information Technology (IT) solutions like monitoring movement of tank trucks through Global Positioning System (GPS) and monitoring level of fuel tanks in Retail Outlets through retail automation are being introduced.

(vii) Branding of Retail Outlets and third party certification of Retail Outlets have been initiated by the OMCs.

(viii) A pilot project has been approved for strengthening the distribution network of PDS kerosene with a view to ensuring that this product is made available to the targeted consumers and is not diverted for adulteration.

Measures to check adulteration are kept under continuous review of the Government.